GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1973
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2016
Increase in Railway Fares
Ashok Kumar Shri K.;Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan;K. Shri Parasuraman;Singh Shri Bharatendra

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has decided to increase fares during peak travel seasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Zonal Railways are barred from introducing special trains under normal fares to clear festival/holiday rush;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken for the speedy modernization of Railways?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1973 BY KUNWAR BHARATENDRA, SHRI K. PARASURAMAN, DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN AND SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.03.2016 REGARDING INCREASE IN RAILWAY FARES

(a) & (b) The following types of special trains are running over Indian Railways on variable fare/higher fares based on the demand pattern:-
i. Suvidha trains:- With effect from 01.07.2015, Suvidha trains on variable fares are introduced for meeting demand peaks as may arise from time to time during summer, winter, festivals and on other occasions. Minimum fare of Suvidha trains is equal to Tatkal fare applicable for the class of accommodation for initial 20% of the berths and thereafter the fare increases for subsequent slabs of 20% of seats/berths booked subject to maximum three times of the Tatkal fare.
ii. Special trains on special charges:- Special trains on special charges are introduced based on demand pattern for both onward and return directions of the run. In addition to Mail/Express fare for Time Tabled Trains, special charges are also levied at the rate of 10% of basic fare for second class and 30% of basic fare for all other classes.
However, for unreserved second class of special train on special charges and Suvidha trains, no extra fare are levied and the same is charged as per the fare of the regular time Tabled Mail/Express superfast fares only.
Suvidha trains & Special trains on special charges are run as additional services over and above the regular time-tabled trains during peak seasons. They do not displace the regular services but complement them by providing additional facility for travel at short notice/lesser Advance reservation period by paying higher fares.

(c) & (d) Special trains on normal fare structure (equivalent to regular time Tabled trains) are run under the following circumstances:-

(i) Unreserved special train for all distances including Jansadharan Express.
(ii) To clear passengers due to hold up of traffic on account of incidents like accidents, floods, breaches, line blocks, cancellation of trains etc.

(e) The steps initiated for speedy modernization of Railways are elimination of level crossings and unmanned level crossings, mechanized maintenance of track, introduction of new generation locomotives, high speed potential LHB coaches, upgradation of suburban coaches, green toilets on all passenger trains. Development of modern high pay load to tare ratio wagons, enhancement of customer amenities at stations and on trains, introduction of mobile ticketing, construction of freight corridors, electrification and trials for train protection warning system etc.

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